

10/519504

DT01 Rec'd PCT/PTC 27 DEC 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A process for obtaining a synthetic organic aromatic heterocyclic rod fiber or film with high tensile strength and/or modulus comprising spinning a synthetic organic polymer to ~~a~~an aromatic heterocyclic rod fiber or obtaining the synthetic organic polymer as an aromatic heterocyclic rod film, followed by loading the fiber or film in the presence of a processing aid, at a temperature below the boiling point of the processing aid and above  $-50^{\circ}\text{C}$ , at a tension of 10 to 95 % of the fiber or film breaking strength, followed by removing the processing aid and/or performing a heating step at a tension of 10 to 95 % of the fiber or film breaking strength.
2. (Currently Amended) The process according to ~~claim 1~~claim 1, wherein the as-spun fiber or the as-obtained film is subjected to the loading step.
3. (Currently Amended) The process according to ~~claim 1 or 2~~claim 1, wherein the loading step is performed between  $-18^{\circ}\text{C}$  and room temperature, ~~preferably between 0 and  $20^{\circ}\text{C}$~~ .
4. (Currently Amended) The process according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~claim 1, wherein the heating step is performed at  $100^{\circ}\text{C}$  or higher.
5. (Currently Amended) The process according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~claim 1, ~~for making a fiber or film~~ wherein the as-spun fiber or the as-obtained film is subjected to a treatment step with the processing aid in the gas or vapor phase at a temperature between  $50^{\circ}$  and  $300^{\circ}\text{C}$ , ~~preferably between  $80^{\circ}$  and  $100^{\circ}\text{C}$~~ , between the loading step and the heating step.
6. (Currently Amended) The process according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~claim 1, wherein the processing aid is an aqueous solution, ~~preferably water~~.

7. (Currently Amended) The process according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~claim 1, wherein the processing aid is removed simultaneously with performing the heating step.
8. (Currently Amended) The process according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~claim 1, wherein the synthetic organic heterocyclic rod fiber or film is a PIPD fiber or film.
9. (Currently Amended) A synthetic organic fiber obtainable by the process of claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the fiber is PIPD with a linear filament density between 0.1 and 500 dtex and an average tensile strength higher than 3200 mN/tex.
10. (Original) The synthetic organic fiber of claim 9, wherein the average tensile strength is higher than 3500 mN/tex.
11. (Currently Amended) A synthetic organic film obtainable by the process of claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the modulus of the film is at least 14 GPa, ~~preferably at least 20 GPa.~~
12. (New) The process according to claim 3, wherein the loading step is performed between 0 and 20°C.
13. (New) The process according to claim 5, wherein the as-spun fiber or the as-obtained film is subjected to a treatment step with the processing aid in the gas or vapor phase at a temperature between 80° and 100° C, between the loading step and the heating step.
14. (New) The process according to claim 6, wherein the processing aid is water.
15. (New) The synthetic organic film according to claim 11, wherein the modulus of the film is at least 20 GPa.